



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,684	07/02/2004	Martinus Johannes Piena	NL 020008	6578
24737	7590	06/29/2005	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			NGUYEN, HAI L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2816	

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

6m

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/500,684	PIENA, MARTINUS JOHANNES	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hai L. Nguyen	2816	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 July 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02 July 2004</u> . | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>see Examiner's Comment</u> . |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed on 7/02/2004 appears to belong to another application with S/N # 10/480,420. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered. Appropriate correction is required.

Oath/Declaration

2. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

The title of the invention to which the oath or declaration is directed to another application with S/N # 10/480,420. Furthermore, the PCT international application # PCT/IB02/05633 also directed to that application as well.

Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to because they fail to label the reference numerals according to their functions, all of the reference numerals require a corresponding textual label in addition to the numeric label. For example, reference numeral 14 in Fig. 1 should be labeled as --Control Circuit-- as described in the specification (page 5). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure

Art Unit: 2816

or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is not in a single paragraph. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

EXAMINER’S COMMENT

5. There are several documents filed on 7/02/2004 and 10/20/2004, which appear to belong to another application with S/N # 10/480,420. They have been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein have not been considered. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2816

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese

Patent # JP 10-111743, issued on 04/28/1998.

With regard to claim 1, the prior art, JP 10-111743, discloses in Figs. 3-4 an electronic device comprising a data communication bus inherently having a plurality of substantially parallel conductors; and an inherent control circuit for providing the first conductor with a first electrical signal (Dr1) and the second conductor with a second electrical signal (Dm); characterized by further comprising a first signal transition dependent delay circuit (4'i) coupled to the first conductor for delaying a first electrical signal transition; and a second signal transition dependent delay circuit (4'n) coupled to the second conductor for delaying a second electrical signal transition.

With regard to claim 7, the prior art also meets the recited limitations in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese

Patent # JP 10-111743 in view of Nogami et al. (US Pat. 4,905,192).

With regard to claims 2-4, the above discussed circuit of the prior art meets all of the claimed limitations except that the prior art does not disclose in details of the first signal transition dependent delay circuit (4'i). Nogami et al. Teaches in Figs. 7-8 the delay circuits, as recited in the claims, have an advantage in that it is possible to further delay by the amount of the rise time of the electrical signal and remove the delay of the fall time of the electrical signal after being subjected to the delay circuit. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the delay circuits of the prior art with the delay circuits taught by Nogami et al. (11s in Figs. 7-8 of Nogami) in order to meet the specific condition of the particular application, such as, to lengthen the precharge time.

10. Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Patent # JP 10-111743 in view of Nogami et al., and further in view of Kitade et al. (US Pat. 6,298,000).

With regard to claims 5 and 6, the above-discussed circuit of the prior art meets all of the claimed limitations except that the prior art does not disclose in details of the first signal transition dependent delay circuit (4'i). Nogami et al. teaches in Fig. 14 a delay circuit (11') comprising inverter, whereas characterized by the output of the inverter being coupled to the conductor via a capacitor and a buffer circuit. Furthermore, Kitade et al. teaches in Fig. 3A an asymmetric inverter (51, 52) comprising first transistor (51) which has a first resistance, and a second transistor (52) which has a second resistance, as recited in the claim. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the delay circuit of the prior art with the delay circuit taught by Nogami et al. (11' in Fig. 14 of Nogami) in combination with the

Art Unit: 2816

asymmetric inverter taught by Kitade et al. (51 & 52 in Fig. 3A of Kitade) in order to meet the specific condition of the particular application, such as, to lengthen the precharge time.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Negishi (US 6,456,545) is cited as of interest because it discloses a method and apparatus for data transmission and reception.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai L. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1747 and Right Fax number is 571-273-1747. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The official fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-1562.


13. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

Art Unit: 2816

system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HLN 

June 18, 2005


TIMOTHY P. CALLAHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800